

Directory

Village of Barrington Hills

112 Algonquin Road
Barrington Hills, IL 60010-5199

Web address with e-mail
www.barringtonhills-il.gov

Phone
847-551-3000

Village Hall Hours
Monday-Friday
9:00 a.m. — 5:00 p.m.

**Director of
Administration**
Robert Kosin

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MEETINGS

The Village Board
4th Monday of the month,
7:00 pm

The Plan Commission
2nd Monday of the month,
7:30 pm

**The Zoning Board of
Appeals**
3rd Monday of the month,
7:30 pm

The Board of Health
3rd Wednesday of the
month, 8:00 pm

**The Communications
Commission**
4th Monday of the month,
5:30 pm

E-911 ETSB
Quarterly on Monday at
6:30 PM.

**The Equestrian
Commission**
1st Monday of the month
at 7:00 PM

All meetings are held in the
Alexander MacArthur Room of
the Barrington Hills Village Hall.

*Should you wish to comment
at any of these meetings,
your advance notice, by
telephoning the office of the
Village Clerk at 847-551-
3000, is appreciated.*

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Board of Trustees

Robert G. Abboud
President

Fritz Gohl
Pro Tem

Theodore L. Horne
Trustee

Walter E. Smithe
Trustee

Julie McKevitt
Trustee

Steve Knoop
Trustee

George L. Schueppert
Trustee

News from Village Hall



September 2005

FROM THE DESK OF THE VILLAGE PRESIDENT

Fellow Residents:

Welcome to the first in a regular series of Village newsletters and the message from the President's office.

Since taking over the Presidency April 25th of this year, much has been accomplished and many new efforts are underway. I want to thank our Trustees, our Village Clerk, all of our Committee volunteers, the Village staff, our Police Department, and of course the many residents who have chipped in with their time and effort to help move us forward.

The role of the Barrington Hills Village government includes protecting its citizens and property, and enhancing our lifestyle and property investment.

The state of the Village is good and these past months have been a surge of activity. Here is a short list of some of the highlights:

• The adoption of 7 new committees, served by resident volunteers:

- Communications Committee
- Equestrian Committee
- Strategic Planning
- Development Commission
- Legal Review Committee
- Risk and Asset Management Committee
- Code Review and Revision Committee

- Reorganization of our Plan Commission and a complete rebuild of our Comprehensive Plan
- Major efforts to rebuild our land use planning and redirection of our legal efforts.



- Augmentation of our legal and technical counsel.
- Reconstruction of our relationships with surrounding communities, other local governments, and each of the 4 counties.
- Annexation of the Country Creek property in the northwest section of the Village.
- Our new Building Officer, Roger Fox, has revamped our building permit process and building office operations.
- The road maintenance program is moving ahead with rebuild of Meadow Hill, Cuba, and Chapel Roads. A new 5-year road maintenance plan is underway.
- A new Snow Plow contract with Cuba Township stabilizes and controls our snow plowing costs while improving service.
- Planning of the next phase of structural and interior upgrades to the Village Hall.
- Continued advancement of our Police and emergency services capabilities, already considered some of the best in the country.
- A detailed review of our pension and insurance plan costs, and other financial instruments to ensure our tax rates remain stable.

continued on page 2

- Efforts to clean up and limit the roadway trash in the Village.
- Continued work on consolidating the School District 300 areas into District 220.

We still face great challenges. In particular, land use and protection of our zoning. The 4 active disconnection problems in the northwest, east, and south sections of the Village will consume significant resources. State requirements for "Affordable Housing" directly threaten our zoning and municipal planning. These regulations attempt to usurp the authority of the community. The good news is that we are making progress. We are working on these issues on a number of levels including legislative, regulatory, and political. I believe we will successfully resolve these issues and the Village will be in a better position to sustain its zoning and open space planning over the long term.

Finally, I want to encourage you to take full advantage of the Village WEB site, www.BarringtonHills-IL.gov. Here you will find all the Village communication, meeting schedules, a fully searchable version of the Village Code, and all the latest happenings within the Village.

Our new Communications Committee will be making extensive use of the electronic medium – WEB, E-mail, Blog, etc. While we will continue to use the paper based news letter for some time, I encourage you to sign up on the Village WEB site for

receiving your news letter by E-mail or WEB as this saves the Village thousands of dollars in processing costs. Most important in our communication efforts is providing effective channels for 2-way communication so our residents can participate and be involved in the governing of the Village.

I encourage you to continue to communicate directly with me and the Trustees. This newsletter will be coming to you on a regular basis. I invite you to attend our regular Board and committee meetings and get involved. We have made it easier to speak at the Village Board meeting by moving Public Comment to the top of the agenda. We need your feedback and ideas. I can be reached directly either by e-mail or phone and I look forward to hearing from you.

Best Regards,



Robert G. Abboud
President, Village of Barrington Hills
Village Hall Office: 847-551-3000
Home: 847-381-8174
Cell: 847-921-1932
Bob@RGALabs.com

Communications Committee

Hello neighbors and friends.

We would like to welcome you to the new Barrington Hills newsletter. Hopefully you will enjoy reading this, and look forward to the next issue. I would like to introduce myself and my committee. My name is Beth Mallen, Chairman of the Communications Committee. Members in my committee are Barbara Kemp, Maureen Prettyman, Lucinda Hanover, Vicky Kelly, Nikki Panos and last but not least, Dan Mjolsness. As a group, our residency spans from one year up to 25 years. What we all share is a desire to know more about our very unique community and to share that information with you--the residents.

Our mission statement reads:

The mission of the Communications Committee is to ensure high quality communication and information exchange between the Barrington Hills Village Government, the residents of Barrington Hills, and the public at large fostering community awareness and involvement.

Our five key focus areas will be:

- 1) **Newsletter**--Communications from Village Hall to the residents.
- 2) **Website**--Communications between Village Hall, residents and the public.
- 3) **Public Meetings and Special Events**--Specific events that increase person to person communication and involvement around topics of interest to BH residents

4) **External PR**--Communication to Public at Large. (Increase public image of BH as rural with an equestrian life style, increase home values and build strong defense in disconnection suits)

5) **Technology**--Provide high quality technology to village residents (including cell phone coverage, ISP service and new technologies).

We have set some very lofty goals for ourselves and as you can well imagine, we will need your help. We, as a committee, have only met twice; so if you have expertise in any of these areas, please contact us at Communication Committee <bhillscommunication@comcast.net> and volunteer your time. Our meetings are open to the public and correspond with the trustees' meetings every fourth Monday, at 5:30 pm, in the training room. I personally believe that, especially here at home, all of us working together will make a difference.

Also, if you have any suggestions or if there are any questions that you feel that we can get answered for you, don't hesitate to contact us. We are here to help you and the Village.

That is more than enough from me. The residents have not had a newsletter in over six months. In this issue, we will try to bring you up-to-date as to what has happened. In the next issue, we will cover in depth the trustees, their goals and two very important behind-the-scenes people: Bob Kosin, Director of Administration and Fred Clauser, Chief of Police.

Regards,

Beth Mallen
Chairman, Communications Committee

TRUSTEE UPDATE—

What has been accomplished in the last six months?

The Scoop from Knoop—Barrington Hills Planning Commission cont.

Steve Knoop calls the Comprehensive Plan, “one of the most important tools and another arrow in the Village’s Quiver” in dealing with such issues as disconnection. The Planning Commission is working on many more.

When asked how the residents can help, Steve replied, “Right now we are preparing material for critical meetings to support the best interests of the Village. Residents are always encouraged to come to the Public Meetings. Certainly with improved communications like this newsletter, we will not be shy to ask for increased participation at such things like County meetings when needed and I would hope and anticipate that hundreds of residents would show to demonstrate their support for our Village, Community and way of life. While we are a small community in numbers we are a huge community in area and heart – and the Village will be counting on their support.”

The Planning Committee minutes and activities are posted to the Barrington Hills website along with dates for future meetings which are open to the residents and the public.

About Teska and Associates:

Teska Associates, Inc., established in 1975, provides public and private clients with professional services directed toward the development and revitalization of our nation’s communities in harmony with natural and human resources. Over 130 governmental units at all levels and dozens of private and institutional clients have been assisted by the firm’s interdisciplinary professional staff.

Teska prides itself on their Consultant-Client Relationship, Perspective, Responsibility, and Professionalism. First, the perspective is comprehensive; it considers a broad range of factors which influence the outcome of an issue, not just the obvious factors. Second, the perspective considers long term trends and consequences, even when immediate accomplishments are desired. Third, the perspective is interdisciplinary, enriching the traditional knowledge of one profession with that of other professions.

Teska Wins Award in McHenry County:

CITY OF MARENGO COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

2005 IL APA Award Recipient - "BEST PLAN"

Teska Associates, Inc. is proud to feature the City of Marengo Comprehensive Plan. In recognition of the Plan’s substance, usability, graphic presentation, and action-oriented nature, the Illinois Chapter of the American Planning Association has commended the City of Marengo Comprehensive Plan by giving it the 2005 “Best Plan” award.

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DID YOU KNOW...

Barrington Hills Trustees are here to help answer our questions and concerns. To get your question answered, or to voice your concern, contact the appropriate Committee Chairman by calling Village Hall 847-551-3000.

Finance	Walter Smithe	Health	Ted Horne
Roads & Bridges	Julie McKevitt	Insurance	George Schueppert
Public Safety	Fritz Gohl	Environment	Ted Horne
Building & Zoning	George Schueppert	Building & Grounds	Ted Horne
Planning	Steve Knoop		

TRUSTEE UPDATE— What has been accomplished in the last six months?

The Scoop from Knoop—Barrington Hills Planning Commission

Dedicated to the Mission

Byline Barbara Kemp

When the April 2005 Barrington Hills Board of Trustees took their Oath of Office, one of the first things they did was agree to a resolution proposed by new Trustee Steve Knoop on a 180 Day Moratorium on new subdivision development for properties greater than or equal to 25 acres. Doing so will allow the Planning Commission time to update the Village Comprehensive Plan last redrafted in 1996. The Comprehensive Plan is one of the critical elements to the preservation of the boundaries of Barrington Hills and to addressing the issues of disconnection efforts.

Also during the first several months of the new boards term, Trustee Knoop and the Planning Commission sponsored an equestrian trail ordinance which ensured that future development take into account the need for equestrian trails as deemed appropriate by the Planning Commission working with the new Equestrian Commission.

The Commission and Village goal is to ensure the new Comprehensive Plan focuses on our strengths and accurately depicts our Village as an open space equestrian community. Since that day, the Planning Commission has been working nearly full time, holding sometimes two meetings monthly. According to Trustee Knoop, the new Trustee with oversight for the Planning Commission, the Commission members are fully dedicated and by far one of the hardest working teams in the Village.

The new and existing Planning Commission Members are:

Kenneth W. Bosworth, Chairman
James J. O'Donnell, Vice Chairman
Lou Ann Majewski, Secretary
Joseph S. Messer
Michael Schmechtig
Peter A. Grande
Thomas Roeser
David M. Stieper
Patrick J. Hennelly

Comprehensive Plan and Professional Support

In one of the initial meetings, Chairman Bosworth pointed out that the Planning Commission's first responsibility is that of general administration, assuring that all new subdivisions meet Code. A subcommittee was formed whose goal would be to spearhead the task of rewriting the Comprehensive Plan with the help of professional land planners. Commissioners Majewski, Messer and Schmechtig are on that team.

After a comprehensive search, the most qualified professional land planning company was chosen, award winning Teska Associates, Inc. of Evanston, Illinois. Lee M. Brown AICP, President and Principal of Teska Associates, is heading up the Barrington Hills initiatives, and presenting and supporting Trustee President Bob Abboud and the Planning Commission in meetings with the counties and nearby towns and villages.

Mr. Brown has 27 years as a professional planner, including collaboration in 1976 with the formation of the Barrington Hills Comprehensive Plan as well as the communities of Wayne, Mettawa and Glencoe. His responsibility is to bring out the best of the community by addressing the Village's specific goals and objectives, implementing them into a plan that will be a legacy for generations to come.

The revised Comprehensive Plan is under development. Further issues of the newsletter will provide timely updates on the status of the Plan. Meetings were held with Algonquin and McHenry County to present the Barrington Hills viewpoints which were favorably received on the development of unincorporated properties between our jurisdictions. Trustee Knoop met with the McHenry County Conservation Trust to discuss interaction with them.

Comprehensive Plan Phases and Activities

- Phase I Project Initiation and Community Assessment
- Phase II Community Development Policy and Vision Workshop
- Phase III Village Wide Plan Elements
- Phase IV Special Planning Areas
- Phase V Report Preparation, Revision and Adoption

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION

At this time of the Summer season, interests begins to build for the next turn of the calendar and the relief of endless days of high temperatures and this year, little rain fall. With Autumn to appear by the celestial calendar on September 22nd, home owners like government should begin planning for the next turn of events and the certainty of Winter.

A short punch list of topics lead to a sense of preparedness or better yet the knowledge of what needs to be done. "A good plan today is better than a perfect plan tomorrow" – Proverbs.

Snow removal contractors. Its not too early to confirm a service agreement for that inevitable snow and ice storm. Confirm the call out numbers and the circumstances for their use. For the hands on approach, the shovel and salt bucket should be found were last placed after last winter.

Utility services. Fall and winter bring the associated weather events that disrupt service whether electrical, cable or telephone. Call out numbers for repairs are one use for the speed dial on that cell phone. The old tried and true flashlight placed in working order in a number of locations including the car helps in a variety of circumstances. Associate the change of clocks on October 30th with the set-up or set-out of flashlights.

Storage. The end of the season brings the task of packing away of another year, from gardening to pool supplies, all of which should occur in accordance with the safe storage procedures known as L.I.E.S.: Limit the amount of hazardous materials in storage. Isolate products in approved containers, store them inside closed cabinets, and protect them from sources of ignition. Keep containers tightly covered. Eliminate products that are no longer necessary by disposing of them properly. Separate incompatible materials (e.g., chlorine products and ammonia).

When handling hazardous materials, be sure to: read the warnings on product labels; use the safety precautions (e.g., gloves, goggles, or breathing mask) recommended by the manufacturer; and limit contact to the degree possible.

Neighbors. Each area of the Village has a unique feature that generalized information overlooks, private versus public roads. Adjoining property owners are the best source of knowledge of what seasonal preparation is the best, worst and worth knowing for that immediate area. It is better to have that conversation now than amidst whatever worst the season may bring.

All in all save time to enjoy the season. By planning for your safety and those in your household will you give the opportunity of enjoying what will surely arrive, Spring.

Robert Kosin, AICP
Director of Administration

EQUESTERIAN COMMITTEE



An Equestrian Commission has been formed to be an advisory commission to the Trustees on all matters within the Village concerning horses, riders and equestrian issues. The commission, which meets at 7 pm the first Monday of every month, consists of Dan Lundmark, John Hart and Dara Vallen and reports to trustee Julie McKeivitt.

Currently the Commission is working with the ZBA to amend the Village ordinance which prohibits boarding of horses within the Village. The Equestrian Commission will shortly begin working with the Plan Commission and developers in order to determine if and where equestrian trails should be provided on any new subdivisions.

The Commission's meetings are open to the public and all are encouraged to attend.

Warm regards,

Dan Lundmark
Chairman, Equestrian Commission

TRUSTEE UPDATE— What has been accomplished in the last six months?

Fritz Gohl—Chairman, Public Safety

I attended a board meeting and had a three minute “spotlight” to sell Barrington Hills to the McHenry County Board. The speech to the McHenry County Board had to do with Duda I and II Development. Topics were Well Failures and Spray Irrigation Problems, of which a letter has been sent.

Both Algonquin and West Dundee, each, had a major well failure east of the river. In addition, six (6) private wells in the Barrington Area failed.

The spray irrigation was brought to the Board's attention as a major problem in the winter months. Because the ground will be frozen, they will be unable to spray and will have to store offsite. This means it must be removed from the premises. If/when the Duda project is finished, the Association, will have to take ownership of the spray irrigation. Should there be a failure/problem in which the association won't be able to manage/solve, the McHenry County Board must step in to manage the system to prevent health hazards.

I have been working with School District 300 and District 200 to resolve a parcel of land in Barrington Hills in which children are going to School District 300 and not Barrington's District 220. I am trying to get District 300 to give us this parcel to become part of District 220. This would accomplish the goal of having all village land encompassed in District 220.

There are now 11 students living in Barrington Hills going to District 300. Three students are High School Juniors and Seniors who would finish District 300. Of the remaining eight, two are in middle school and the remainder are at Countryside.

The issue is what will it cost to do this: money, taxes, impact fees, or a land trade. The question is what will District 300 want.

Six new officers were hired, starting April 5th. They completed their training and began patrolling as of August.

Walter E. Smithe—Trustee, Finance

The village continues to move towards a solid financial footing. I am very pleased that our fund balance, which is like equity in a business, is building towards our goals.

The village audit was complete as of year ended 4/30/05. Our auditor, Lauterbach and Amen, gave us a clean opinion.

Financial matters that the trustees are currently grappling with are the high cost of the village health insurance plan and the appropriate funding level for the Police Pension Fund as well as how to get the maximum results from the large outlays the village makes for legal expenses.

Trustee George Schueppert has joined the Finance Committee. Trustee Schueppert's keen financial sense has already been a great benefit to the board. He was instrumental in developing the new fund balance report referenced above as well as some solid analysis of the village insurance plans and pension funds. We are indeed fortunate to have someone of his caliber on our board.

George Schueppert—Trustee; Building, Zoning and Insurance

The Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) has been asked by the Village of Barrington Hills Board (VBH) to examine the zoning ordinances covering permitted uses of residential property in the village and to make any recommendations for changes deemed appropriate. In particular, the VBH Board asked the ZBA to consider the matter of boarding horses for a fee on residential property, an activity currently not permitted in the village.

The Zoning Board of Appeals has been asked to consider possible requirements for sprinkler systems in new construction in the village and has been asked to meet with representatives of the Countryside Fire District in this regard.

The Zoning Board of Appeals has been asked to consider the need for additional ordinance protection covering natural landscaping and large trees in the village similar to the steps the Village of Lake Forest took to protect its foliage.

An analysis of the village's liability insurance program is underway with the results to form part of the Board's deliberations on future insurance needs for VBH.

An analysis of the village's investments and investment policy is underway with the objective of maximizing the village's return on those investments within the constraints of a conservative investment policy.

TRUSTEE UPDATE—

What has been accomplished in the last six months?

Julie McKevitt—Trustee, Roads and Bridges

Since assuming the position of Roads and Bridges Chair in April from my predecessor President Robert Abboud, I new I had big shoes to fill. Both myself and the Village engineers at Gewalt Hamilton have been working diligently to continue the previously set forth improvement plans. In May we received five bids for the 2005 Road Program, in June the Board of Trustees approved a contract with the apparent low bidder Chicagoland Paving in the amount of \$720,669.25 to include the following roads:

Meadow Hill Road; Reconstruction of the final 600' North of County Line Rd., including Geoweb slope stabilization.
Cuba Road; Partial reconstruction from Merri Oaks Rd. to Plum Tree Rd., including storm sewer improvements.
Chapel Road; Church Rd. to Haegers Bend Rd. Work included patching, resurfacing and landscape restoration.
Healey Road; Penny Rd. to the Village limits. Work included patching, resurfacing and landscape restoration.
Honeycut Road; Hills and Dales to the end. The Board had originally approved the resurfacing of the road, but upon further engineering review we have found sheet drainage, and erosion issues which will be addressed in a two year effort. In 2005 we will clean the culverts and the storm sewers, and in 2006 we will reengineer and resurface the road.
Spring Creek/Haegers Bend Island; the existing median nose was replaced with a more gradual transition from the pavement to the top of the median, and painted yellow to increase its visibility.

The contract completion date was September 9, 2005. We appreciate the inconvenience that the road closing may have caused to our residents, but I hope that you agree that in the long run these improvements were well worth the effort.

In looking forward we still have work to complete this year. The 2005 Drainage Package should be out to bid in the month of September. This bid package will address drainage issues, culvert maintenance, storm sewer improvements, and bridge improvements on various streets throughout the Village.

Lastly, on a 90 degree day back in June we began working on plans for the Villages snow removal for this coming winter. I am pleased to tell you that in August the Board approved an Intergovernmental Agreement with Cuba Township for the township to be responsible for the snow removal and ice control on all Village roads. The benefits to our residents are threefold; we will now have an annual fixed budget cost for our snow removal. In years past its been very difficult to budget for this expense, as know one really knows what mother nature has in store for us. Secondly, we will have improved dispatching abilities, and improved response times, and lastly we will be building a lasting relationship with a neighboring township. Rest assured Cuba Township, under the capable hands of Mr. Tom Gooch has successfully performed these services for other surrounding communities such as North Barrington, Lake Barrington, Deer Park, and Ela Township.

As always, if any resident has a question or concern regarding the roads and bridges within the Village I am happy to help. Please feel free to contact me either at the Village Hall, or at my home #847-458-4540.

Sincerely,
Julie McKevitt, Village Trustee

Ted Horne—Trustee, Buildings and Grounds

The prolonged drought this summer severely challenged the outdoor landscaping at The Village Hall. Gator bags and soaker hoses were used to water the trees. The sprinkler systems that were installed several years ago cover only the beds, not the turf grass. Many dead shrubs were replaced. Despite our best efforts at weeding, the beds are full of thistles.

Landscape Committee members Lorraine Briggs and Daria Sapp, both former trustees, do a wonderful job in these continually challenging conditions.

We are adding a solid awning that will cover the south entrance, the equipment pad, and the police sally port. The foundation work for this awning has been completed. We expect the awning construction to be finished next year.

All during the course of the drought and periods of extensive heat, our HVAC systems chugged along reliably, doing their job well so that meeting and working conditions remained comfortable.

The police dispatch room contains equipment that generates heat, making it an oven in summer heat. We will work on the HVAC equipment to keep this room comfortable.

Before the next Village Board meeting we will be painting the MacArthur meeting room. The presidential pictures will be moved from the west wall to the north wall. The photograph presently on the north wall is an original developed photo by Michael Johnson, who grew up in Barrington Hills and is known as the Ansel Adams of the Midwest. This valuable photo will be moved for the moment to the south wall of the room. Eventually we'll get a new aerial photo of the Village (the current one hanging in the MacArthur room dates from more than 24 years ago).



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Suggestions for Newsletter Content

Please write and let us know what interests you have for future newsletters or if you would like to contribute/volunteer. Mail this form to the Village Hall or bring it in and say hello. If you would prefer to receive the newsletter via email, submit your email address to the Village at bhillscommunication@comcast.net. Thank you.
